

# **Nancy and Joseph Hayes personal narratives S0615**

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This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

September 30, 2015

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Books and Manuscripts  
140 North Senate Avenue  
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204  
317-232-3671

## Table of Contents

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<u>Summary Information</u> .....	3
<u>Biographical Note</u> .....	4
<u>Scope and Contents</u> .....	4
<u>Arrangement</u> .....	4
<u>Administrative Information</u> .....	5
<u>Related Materials</u> .....	5
<u>Controlled Access Headings</u> .....	6

## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Rare Books and Manuscripts
<b>Creator</b>	Hayes, Joseph, 1786-1875
<b>Creator</b>	Hayes, Nancy Billingsley, 1790-1875
<b>Title</b>	Nancy and Joseph Hayes personal narratives
<b>Date</b>	mid-1800s
<b>Extent</b>	0.01 Cubic feet 1 folder
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Text [Folder]</b>	S615

### Preferred Citation

Nancy and Joseph Hayes personal narratives, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library

## Biographical Note

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Nancy Billingsley Hayes was born December 4, 1790 in Berkeley County, Virginia to Thomas and Nancy Billingsley. Her family moved west and settled at the forks of Mill Creek near Sharon (now known as Sharonville, Ohio) in 1796. In the spring of 1803 her family moved to the area that is now Dearborn County, Indiana. She married Joseph Hayes in 1809 and they had 12 children. She passed away on May 24, 1875.

Joseph Hayes was born on July 31, 1786 in Chester County, Pennsylvania to Solomon and Mary Craig Hayes. He set out for the "far west" with his brother, John Hayes, in 1801 and was one of Lawrenceburg, Indiana's first settlers. He engaged in farming and live stock trading and it was believed that he was the largest land owner in Dearborn County at the time of his death. He was married to Nancy for 65 years and passed away on February 3, 1875.

Sources:

Ezra G. Hayes personal narrative, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library.

"Another Pioneer Gone." *Lawrenceburg Press*, February 4, 1875, 3.

"Death of Mrs. Joseph Hayes." *Lawrenceburg Press*, May 27, 1875, 3.

"The Will of Jos. Hayes, Sr." *Lawrenceburg Press*, February 12, 1875, 2.

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## Scope and Contents

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This collection contains the personal narratives of Nancy Billingsley Hayes and Joseph Hayes, which cover the period from 1786 to 1824. The collection consists of photocopies of the original Hayes writings and typewritten transcripts of these writings. Nancy Hayes relates her experiences traveling west with her family and the first years of her marriage to Joseph. She describes the earthquake of December 1811 and local experiences during the War of 1812. Joseph Hayes relates his experiences and observations while traveling west from Chester, Pennsylvania in 1801. He also describes the founding of Lawrenceburg, Indiana, his early work experiences, a smallpox outbreak in 1803, and community gatherings such as house-raisings and corn-huskings.

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## Arrangement

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This collection is arranged chronologically.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Information

Rare Books and Manuscripts

### Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

### Conditions Governing Use

Legal title, copyright, and literary rights reside with Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN. All requests to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted to Rare Books and Manuscripts.

### Custodial History

This collection was received by Rare Books and Manuscripts as a donation from Smith Library in 1946.

### Accruals

No further additions are expected.

### Processing Information

Collection processing completed 2015/08/13 by Laura Eliason. EAD finding aid created 2015/08/13 by Laura Eliason.

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## Related Materials

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### Related Archival Material

Materials relating to this collection may be found in the following collection(s) in Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN:

S614: Ezra G. Hayes personal narrative

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## Controlled Access Headings

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### Geographic Name(s)

- Dearborn County (Ind.)
- United States--History--War of 1812

### Subject(s)

- Diseases
- Earthquakes
- Family life
- Farming
- Frontier and pioneer life--Indiana
- Indiana--History--War of 1812
- Personal narratives
- Social life and customs
- Women pioneers